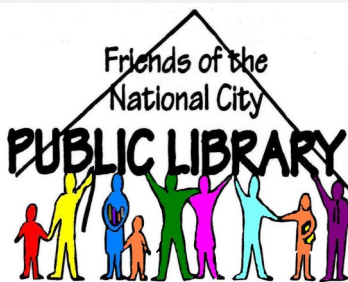


Voices from



the Friends

Special points of interest:

- The Friends Board normally meets 5:00pm the third Wednesday of each month at the Library. All Friends members as well as the general public are welcome to attend.
- To contact the Friends, call 619-470-5930 or send an email to: ncplfrnds@gmail.com
- The Friends mailing address is: NCPL Friends, 1401 National City Boulevard, National City, CA 91950.

A REVIEW OF 2013 LIBRARY NEWS AND PROGRAMS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we enter a new year, we hope you enjoy this review of 2013 Library news and programs funded by the Friends. We expect all Friends continuing members will be pleased to learn what their support has brought to our Library. To those who are not yet Friends members, please consider joining us in our continuing goal of making our Library and its programs the best that they can be. Best 2014 wishes, Gloria Bird, President

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The Friends Board

Gloria Bird, President
Micki Head, VP
Monica O'Hara, Treas
Barbara Rydberg, Secr
Myrtle Rudesill, Dir

EBOOKS

The Library recently announced the launch of its new Ebook collection. As a member of the Southern California Digital Library Consortium, the Library is now offering its patrons access to a shared collection of eBooks and downloadable audiobooks.

The consortium, comprised of 18 libraries, combines buying powers to acquire more content and multiple copies, thus reducing patron's waiting time for popular titles. In addition to the shared collection, the library can build a custom collection based on patrons' suggestions and recommendations.

The custom collection is exclusive to National City Public Library and only accessible to our members. Titles can be enjoyed through the following devices: personal computer, laptop, e-reader, MP3 player, or smart devices such as iPhones, iPads, Android devices, tablets, etc.

JAMES HUBBLE ARTWORK

Thanks to funding provided by the Friends, a second leaded glass window designed by the noted local artist James Hubbell was unveiled during June. The unique artwork is entitled "Grail", after the legendary cup or chalice from Arthurian legend. It joins an earlier window entitled "Land of the Firebird" installed during 2009. Both windows are in the Library's Reference/Young Adult area.

NEWS FROM LITERACY

SMALL-GROUP COMPUTER LITERACY CLASSES FOR BEGINNERS



In August, the Kimball Senior Center Advocacy Group teamed up with the National City Public Library to start a small-group computer class for beginners. Library Instructor Roger created lessons on basic computer skills: using a mouse, keyboarding, searching the internet, and creating an email account. A library volunteer provided hands-on support during class time. Everyone in the group has made great progress.

We look forward to helping more people learn the skills needed to make effective use of computer and internet resources. Future classes will meet twice a week for eight weeks, and will be open to beginning computer users who enroll in the library's adult literacy program. Sign up at the Literacy Services office.

EARLY LITERACY WORKSHOPS

The library hosted a series of Every Child Ready to Read workshops in May and June of this year. 35 families attended workshops to learn fun, simple activities to boost early literacy skills. Ready to Read workshops helped parents to learn about school readiness skills: talking, singing, reading, writing, and playing!

NATURALIZATION WORKSHOP

On September 21st, the library and USCIS hosted an informational workshop on naturalization. Participants learned about requirements for citizenship, witnessed a mock interview, and asked questions. A library staff member also shared information about library resources and how to get a library card.

NEW TECHNOLOGY

Thanks to grant funding from the County of San Diego and the San Diego Council on Literacy, we now have access to an iPad, Kindle Fire, and laptop for use during tutoring sessions! Stay tuned to find out when the technology is ready for checkout.

Helpful New Literacy Website!

www.ncliteracy.weebly.com

Check out our new website to find links to learning tools for adult literacy learners and tutors.

CHILDREN'S ROOM 2013

FREE BOOK WEEK

The Children's Library held a Free Book Week, formerly known as Reading is Fundamental, from May 20 to May 25 and from Oct. 28 to Nov. 2. For several year the Library has distributed free books during events in order to give children a chance to own a book of their own choosing, which is to say, one that they will be motivated to read. In many households, children do not have many options to compete with the TV and video games for their interest. The Children's Library Free Book Week is an attempt to do something about that. The Friends of the Library is a major supporter of these events, supplying volunteers to assist in handling the floods of children who make class visits to the library to pick out their books. If you are a Friends member and would like to participate in this very entertaining and worthwhile event, please send an email to the Friends office and we will put your name on our volunteer list

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

The annual children's Summer Reading Program took place in June and July. Many studies have shown that children who set aside their books for the summer backslide dramatically in their reading ability, and often spend the first several months of the new school year just getting back to the reading level at which they ended the previous year. To counteract that alarming tendency, every year we encourage our kids to enroll in our Summer Reading Program and spend time with some good books. This summer 486 kids signed up for the program. They earned small incentives – pencils, stickers, tops, etc. – based on how much they read, and we capped the program off with a party at the MLK Building, complete with drawings for museum tickets, gift certificates and other prizes, pizza and popsicles, and the always-popular RaggleTaggle Band! The Summer Reading Program, like all of the Children's Library programming, is funded by the Friends of the Library

CHOCOLATE READING CLUB

Of course, reading is its own reward, but in March and April the Children's Library held a Chocolate Reading Club to give kids a little extra encouragement to read. Every child who signed up (and more than 200 did) was given a reading log to keep track of their reading in 10-minute increments. Reading 10 minutes earned them a Hershey Kiss, and reading 100 minutes was rewarded with a Hershey Bar! We had to place a 200-minute ceiling on every participant, or the more avid readers would have cleaned our chocolate supply out! When all was said and done, the kids who participated logged nearly 250 hours of reading time.

LEGO CLUB

During the year the Children's Library had a series of LEGO Club programs – we supplied the LEGOs and the kids supplied the imagination. The program proved to be popular. Not surprisingly, when it comes to LEGOs, you can never have too many, so we'd like to invite all of our friends and supporters whose children have grown and left the nest to check their closets for LEGOs in need of a good home. We would gratefully accept them as donations!

FRIENDS BOOKSTORE NOTES

A big thank you to all of you who support us with your visits to our bookstore, our book table close to the Reference desk in the library, and our book table at the community breakfasts. It is our way, and yours, of sponsoring many library programs and activities. Our 2nd Annual Book Sale was held on Tuesday, December 3rd. The sale was well attended and it was good to see so many happy book shoppers of all ages. Below you will find information about two new fund-raising initiatives we have undertaken. With your continuing support we hope that 2014 will be the best year ever. Thanks again to everyone! Micki Head, Bookstore Director

BOOKSTORE INTERNET SALES

The Friends have begun consigning selected items from its Bookstore to Book Forward Inc., a firm located in Glendora, California, which specializes in internet book sales for libraries and friends of the library organizations. Book Forward handles all aspects of online selling. A portable scanner provided by the firm is used to select items which are packaged and sent to the firm at no charge to the Bookstore. The Bookstore incurs no "out of pocket" costs of any kind. A secure website allows the status of items to be tracked. Monthly, if sales reach a predetermined minimum, Book Forward sends a payment for the items sold. In addition, for items that Book Forward does not accept, the Bookstore retains the option to consign them to another seller or sell them on its own.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK BAGS

Thanks to long-time Friends member Connie Vickers, reusable cloth book bags priced at \$1.00 each are available for purchase in the Bookstore. Sales proceeds will be used to support library programs. To conserve resources and the environment, the bookstore no longer will be providing plastic bags.

GET INVOLVED

Looking for a rewarding volunteer opportunity? Become a volunteer literacy tutor at the library! We are currently seeking motivated volunteers to teach basic literacy skills to adults: reading, writing, spelling, and math. There are also opportunities to help adults pass the citizenship test, prepare for the GED, and learn basic computer skills. The library provides training, support, and materials. To find out how you can help, stop by the Literacy Services Office on the second floor of the library or call 619-470-5860.

Also, the Friends Bookstore located adjacent to the Children's Room on the first floor of the library has a continuing need for volunteers. If you interested please ask one of the current volunteers for the Bookstore's "How to Volunteer" form.

PLEASE JOIN THE FRIENDS—1401 National City Blvd, National City, CA 91950

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

(A Non-Profit 501(c)(3) Organization-Contributions are Tax Deductible)

Name: _____ Address: _____

Annual Membership

Individual \$5.00 _____ Family \$10.00 _____ Sponsor \$25.00 _____ Benefactor \$50.00 _____ Special Friend \$100.00 _____ Org/Bus \$35.00 _____